

**Agriculture.**

**Trees around Barns.**

Much attention has been paid our valuable paper lately to the management and cultivation of fruit trees. The subject is one of importance, and worthy of your consideration, as well as of more attention among farmers than it generally receives. I am willing to do what I can to call more attention to this subject, and would therefore suggest a plan in which a few dollars might profitably be invested by every farmer who has a barnyard; it is this: to set out as many apple or other fruit trees around the barn yard as the room will permit.

Trees so planted will soon grow out their roots under the barn and yard where they will find an abundance of nourishment which has soaked downward from the roof of the yard, and which, did they not so, could not be available in any other way. In consequence of their proximity to the yard and barn, they will not need any manuring further attention, save to protect them from cattle, till they get out of their reach, which they will soon do, and come into bearing.

The fruit from trees so planted is large and well developed, and they last always hang full. One of my neighbors who has a row of apple trees on one side of his yard, and the other some distance from the one near his yard produces apples of the size, and more than four times the quantity of the other. My neighbor's trees are out sixty years of age, and the largest that have ever been seen; a number of them are about eight feet in circumference, at a distance sixty feet across them through the heads, and are still growing vigorously.

It is also a great advantage to a yard to have trees around it, especially in winter, as they do much towards breaking the cold winds, and preventing much suffering among the cattle. I hope that the who feel disposed will try it this fall, as the outlay is so small, and the result so sure, that I doubt not they will be satisfied with the result, and an additional attraction be given to the old homestead.—*Homestead.*

**Ashes—Some ways to use them as Manure.**

1. One excellent way is to scatter them thinly over the ground and leave the dressing to soak into the soil. This is the best mode on meadows that you do not wish to plow.

2. They may be allied in the same way to land which you are going to plow for corn or potatoes.

3. Unleached ash may be applied to corn after it is up, at the rate of a table-spoonful to a hill, partly as a manure, and partly to arrest the ravages of cut-worms.

4. It may be profitably used as a dressing for strawberry beds in the spring. It should be applied dry, and spaded in. Strawberries love an application of this sort.

5. They may, when unleached, be strewn over crops when sowing. Such as grapes, or oats, or other grain. They should be scattered dry.

6. They may be scattered with the seed of winter grain, and will often thus be of great use.

7. They form an excellent dressing for lands, to be used for fruit trees. They contain so much of potash needed for the growth of trees, that a generous application of ashes, plowed in deep will be beneficial. Trees already set out, may be helped by spading in ashes sparingly about their roots.

8. Applied to clay soil, they soften it. Used on sandy soil, they harden it. Scattered on sour land, they correct its acidity. They are quite generally useful.—*N. E. Farmer.*

**SHIPPING APPLES TO EUROPE.**—The most successful exporter of apples from this country, R. L. Pell, of Ulster County, New York, owes a considerable portion of his success to careful picking and careful handling. The fruit is picked, one apple at a time, from the tree; when transferred from the hand-basket to the larger one, only two are taken at a time by hand. These baskets are then drawn, not even on a spring wagon, but on a sled, to the building for storing, so as to secure them from jolting. When packed in barrels they are again taken two at a time by hand. They are drawn on a sled to the North River, and lifted by two men on board the steamboat, to be taken to New York and shipped. When lowered on shipboard they are caught, one at a time, on men's shoulders, and carefully carried to the cool part of the ship. At London they are carried by two men on a handbarrow, with the same care that we carry a costly looking-glass. With these precautions they arrive in London in better order than market apples usually reach our own cities, and having been carefully selected, sell for \$10 per barrel and some as high as \$20.—*Id.*

**Give the Plow and the Hoe no Rest**

1. In order to prevent the growth of weeds.  
2. To insure needed moisture through the deposition of a greater amount of dew, upon which plants so largely depend—softening the earth, so that the moisture that condenses upon the surface may penetrate more deeply, and rendering it more porous for the easier passage of the atmosphere, for condensation in the cooler soil below.

3. To secure a greater absorption of ammonia.  
4. To aid in the decomposition of minerals whose elements are food of plants.

**Sulphur for Stock.**

The benefit derived by stock from the use of sulphur is not sufficiently well known.

Most farmers are well aware that there are certain seasons in the year when animals of every description on the farm—from the finest colt down to the poorest calf—become afflicted with (in plain English) lice (one of the ten plagues of Egypt,) or "ticks."

To become free from any trouble or injuries from the attacks of these pests, we have only to put sulphur in the feed or salt of stock so infested; or mix a little in lard, and rub it on the small and young animals. A speedy cure may be depended upon.

I think a teaspoonful two or three times a week—four or five times a year—will generally keep hogs and sheep entirely clear of such vermin.

The above article is more particularly applicable to sheep and hogs. It has been said, and, I believe, with some show of truth, that sulphur has another effect on sheep; that, given plentifully at the beginning of warm weather, as above directed every other week, till shearing time, it opens the pores of the skin, curing cough, and whitening the wool; and, as evidence of which, look at the big, snow-white sheep on the mountains of Virginia, in the vicinity of the sulphur springs.—*Ohio Valley Farmer.*

**To preserve Smoked Meat.**

How often are we disappointed in our hopes of having sweet hams during the summer? After carefully curing and smoking, and when sewing them up in bags and white-washing them we find that the fly has commenced a family in them, or that the choice parts round the bone are tainted, and the whole spoiled.

Now, this can easily be avoided by packing them in pulverized charcoal. No matter how hot the weather, or how thick the flies, hams will keep as sweet as when packed, for years. The preserving quality of charcoal will keep them until charcoal decays.

Butter put in a clean crock, and surrounded by pulverized charcoal, will never become rancid.

**Correspondence.**

For the Christian Messenger.

**Obituary Notices.**

MR. SAMUEL MILLER.

On Friday night, the 10th ult., Brother Samuel Miller, of Upper Wilmot, retired to rest, apparently in good health. The next morning Sister Miller arose, and attended to some domestic affairs, and when she returned she found him a breathless corpse. He did not appear to have struggled or moved in the least; but lay as if in a sweet sleep. The vital spark, however, had flown away.

Our departed brother has been removed from us at the age of 65 years. He has left a widow and 13 children to mourn their loss, indeed, but not to "sorrow as those that have no hope." He had been religiously exercised in former years; but he never became decided till the Spring of the year 1854. During a series of meetings, which he attended at that time, a discourse delivered by the writer in reference to the case of "the impotent man" at the pool of Bethesda, "which had an infirmity thirty and eight years,"—John v. 1-8, especially impressed his mind, and encouraged him to venture upon Christ. Soon after this he offered himself to the Baptist Church, and was received and baptized. In accordance with the advice given him on his reception of the right hand of fellowship, he commenced prayer in his family that evening. He continued to be a regular and steadfast member of the Church to the close of his life. A short time prior to his decease his mind was strongly exercised at a prayer-meeting; and on the last day of his life he is said to have been unusually earnest in family prayer.

This very impressive instance of the sudden and stealthy approach of death during the hours of nightly slumber, calls loudly to the unregenerated to "prepare to meet God," and solemnly admonishes believers to be "sober and watch unto prayer," and to work "while it is day."—*Communicated by Rev. C. Tupper.*

**REBECCA WOODWORTH.**  
Died, suddenly, at Lower Granville, on the 12th of November last, in the 26th year of her age, the only remaining daughter of Mr. Elias Woodworth. She had for upwards of three years been afflicted with a pulmonary disease. On Thursday she complained of being rather unwell, but was able to sit up and write to her friends. At 3 o'clock on Friday morning she was taken violently ill, and only lived till half-past two in the afternoon.

When about twelve years of age she believed and was baptized, and, by her consistent conduct, manifested to the world that she had been with Jesus, and learned of him. Having lived to Christ, she could feel the assurance that, whether dying or living, she was the Lord's. So exceedingly violent was her attack, she was enabled to speak but very little. Her hopes were fixed on Christ.

This is the eighth child the bereaved parents have had thus removed from them. Period after period has their dwelling been made like "Ramah." May they, while realizing the evanescence of all earthly fountains, find in their Creator an unchangeable fullness.—*Communicated by Rev. James Spencer.*

Granville, Dec. 14th, 1858.

PHINEAS TAYLOR.

Departed this life, Nov. 10th, in the 19th year of his age, Phineas, fifth son of the Rev. Bennet Taylor, of New Germany, at the residence of D. W. Morton, Esq., Wilmot, Annapolis County.

The disease was brain fever, and notwithstanding medical aid was at hand it did not avail, and in nine days the spirit took its flight, we trust to be eternally blest. When taken ill the parents were immediately sent for, and as they stood beside the dying couch of their beloved son, the only words that fell from his lips were "all is well." He was a young man of much promise, and beloved by all who knew him. Some few years ago, during a revival of religion at New Germany, he was impressed that he was a lost sinner by hearing his mother pray for his salvation. That prayer, we believe, was immediately answered, and he found the Saviour precious to his soul. May this dispensation of Providence be blest of God, and may the God of all grace support and comfort the weeping parents and friends.

How necessary that all who love the Saviour should publicly testify of his goodness, not only for their own comfort but for the glory of God. No-doubt this young man would gladly have talked of Jesus on his death bed, but that privilege was denied him. May we be "also ready for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh."—*Communicated by the Rev. W. G. Parker.*

Nictaux, Dec. 24th, 1858.

FRANCIS EISENHAUR.

departed this life Nov. 26, 1858, in the 51st year of his age.

When Rev. A. W. Bars took charge of the Baptist church at North West Lunenburg he appeared to be a total stranger to saving Grace, but before he resigned the pastorate of the church he gave a much more satisfactory evidence of his union with Christ.

During the last year of his life it was the privilege of the writer to visit him frequently and on one occasion, a few weeks before his death, he emphatically said, "All my desire is to depart and go to Jesus."

He has left a widow and four sons, beside his aged mother, (who lived with him) and a numerous circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. The Rev. A. W. Bars preached the funeral sermon, from 1st Cor. xiii. 12.

J. FAULKNER.

North West, Dec. 10, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

**Extemporaneous Preaching.**

DEAR BRETHREN,

The practice of reading sermons to which your correspondent "H." refers, as prevalent in New England, has been copiously discussed this year in the old country. Dr. Campbell, Editor of the *British Standard*, has written much and powerfully on the subject. One of his last editorials contains the following:—

"JOHN BAPTIST, JESUS CHRIST, the Apostles, the Evangelists, the Fathers, the Reformers,—all, all used free speech. The Church of Rome, after departing from everything else that was Apostolic and Scriptural, adhered to this, and she does so still through all the world; and to this she owes much of her remaining power over mankind. It was reserved for England, in the darkest hour of her religious history, to sink the preacher into the reader, the son of thunder into the mawkish mumbler, and to exhibit to an astonished world ten thousand pulpits filled with men in fetters!"

"Let me now present a very singular and highly instructive testimony of a personal character. It is from the autobiography of the Rev. THEODORE CLAPP, of the United States, and is as follows:—

"There was then in New Orleans one of the most eloquent lawyers of his day. I obtained an introduction to him. In the course of conversation, I remarked that as I was just beginning to speak in public, and experienced much difficulty in the process, I should be very much obliged if he would tell me what kind of previous preparation for delivering a speech he had found most effective. He replied, 'I never speak without intense premeditation on my subject, unless compelled by some unforeseen exigencies. With respect to ideas, you cannot be too careful and accurate in your preparation; but if you write down every word, and commit it to memory,—I have tried this once or twice,—you will overdo the matter, and render your discourse heavy. In spite of yourself, it will appear stiff and unnatural, laboured and cold. I am a very wicked man, but, if I had to preach in your pulpit next Sabbath morning, I should select a subject to my taste, then make, as the lawyers call it, a brief of what I intended to say. This I should carry with me through the week, and during my leisure hours, even walking along the streets, think closely on its divisions and subdivisions, till I had attained a full and distinct view of the matter which I wished to clothe in words, till I had become warm, and interested in it, and made it perfectly familiar to my thoughts. Then I would enter your pulpit, and speak with fluency, earnestness, ease, and with the best ornaments of style, manner, and elocution, that my poor genius could command. What do you think of this plan of preparing sermons?' he inquired.

"It strikes me as admirable," I answered. "If you will try it next Sunday," he added, "I will be present, and honestly give you my opinion of the character of your performances." I retired to my room, chose a subject, made a brief, and faithfully followed his directions,—with one exception,—I did not take it into the pulpit with me. He kept his word, and came to the church on Sabbath morning.

Meeting me after the services, he said, "Sir, your discourse was natural, easy, simple, and magnificent; you laid down sentence after sentence, and paragraph after paragraph, entirely fit for the press; I did not notice that you tripped a single time, which you would have done, had you used a manuscript. You will make an extemporaneous speaker quite as popular and brilliant as ever Mr. Larned was." This gentleman communicated to me what was worth more, as to the secret of speaking well in the pulpit, than all which I had heard from the professors at Andover, or read in the treatises on the subject."

"The principle here set forth is true to the letter. It is nature and reason."

I commend the above to the consideration of all young preachers.

Yours truly,

J. M. CRAMP.

Acadia College, Dec. 24, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

**Yarmouth County.**

DEAR EDITOR,

In East Chebogue a series of meetings by several of my ministering brethren in last month have been attended with some beneficial results. Through the covenant mercies of Jesus Christ I have baptized four heads of families and two young women in East Chebogue. There are favourable indications of further enlargement to the cause of Christ. A happy union prevails in this section.

Last Lord's-day I visited the Tuskent Lakes church to preach the glad tidings of salvation to this infant body. God was with them in conference, and after a most united expression of christian love, two came forward to obey Christ in baptism. After preaching, the commemoration of Christ's death was attended to by the church, when visiting brethren and sisters from three other churches of our order sat down with them.

May a gracious God visit his heritage with refreshing dew from the clouds of his merciful providence; May the peaceful Dove descend on his chosen servants; may burning coals from his holy altar touch all our lips, that they may speak his truth only, and may many hear to his glory, and their spiritual good. Amen.

Yours affectionately,

J. V. TABOR.

**A SENSIBLE FATHER.**—A shrewd old gentleman once said to his daughter—"Be sure, my dear, you never marry a poor man; but remember the poorest man in the world is one that has money and nothing else."

**QUAINT TITLE.**—In 1750 a sermon was preached in Boston with a title which ran as follows:—*A Wedding Ring, Fit for the Finger; or, The Save of Divinity on the Shore of Humanity.* With directions to those Men who want Wives, how to choose them; and those women who have Husbands, how to use them. Laid open in a Sermon at a Wedding.